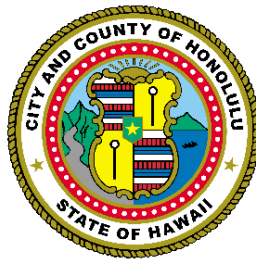




**Herbert K. Pililā'au
Community Park**



MO'OLELO PĀKA

Parks and Recreation Newsletter *Summer 2022*

One of our most popular Leeward parks serves as the namesake of an extraordinary Wai'anae kanaka maoli. Herbert K. Pililā'au was just 22-years-old when he was killed in action protecting his fellow Army soldiers from intense enemy fire as they withdrew. For his heroic actions, he was awarded the Medal of Honor, making him the first Native Hawaiian to receive our nation's highest military decoration. Pililā'au is now interned at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Pūowaina). His service picture is imposed on a scenic shot of the Wai'anae park above. Mahalo to all service members who gave their final and full measure of devotion upon the altar of freedom and democracy.

"We add quality to life!"



Lei Day Celebration Returns to Kapi'olani!

We were thrilled to host the 94th Lei Day Celebration as it made its return to in-person festivities! The blessing of beautiful, Sunday weather perfectly accompanied the traditional celebration with the Lei Court Investiture, hula, lei-making workshops, live music, and the lei contest. Check out the winners of the contest and more from the day by visiting the website: bit.ly/HonoluluLeiDay

Senior Classic Games

It was a St. Patrick's Day full of greenery, fun, and games at Hālawā District Park as dozens of kūpuna attended our Senior Classic Games for the first time since the pandemic began! Seniors enjoyed a variety of indoor and outdoor activities, challenging them both physically and mentally. More information about our Senior Clubs at: bit.ly/oahuseniors

Mayor's Memorial Day Ceremony

The 71st Mayor's Memorial Day Ceremony returned to the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Pūowaina /Punchbowl) with community support and island scouts helping to place a fresh lei and American flag on every grave prior to the ceremony. Mahalo to everyone who assisted with this effort and to our service members for their sacrifice.

Waiau Rec Building Blessing

The reopening of a vital park facility in Pearl City was recognized in a rededication ceremony for the Waiau District Park Recreation Building. The renovation project began in August 2020, with a combined construction cost of nearly \$857,000 and a design cost of nearly \$197,000 for: roofing, flooring, painting, interior work, and much improved ventilation.

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Kākou for Parks Updates:

This unparalleled program continues to revitalize our aging and most popular facilities island-wide, resulting in **188** different parks improved. See more at bit.ly/KakouforParks



Kalaepōhaku Neighborhood Park



Herbert K. Pililā'au Community Park



Kahuku District Park



Hālawā District Park

135

New & Refurbished
Playgrounds

144

Renovated Comfort
Stations (Bathrooms)

565

Resurfaced Play
Courts

163

Lined Pickleball
Courts



Exceeding the call for 10% water reduction!



Summer Fun is back!

We are excited to welcome back keiki and teens to our most popular park program, with nearly 7,000 keiki enrolled at 55 sites around O'ahu! As a result of the rapid increase in COVID cases, mask wearing is required for indoor activities. There are other safety measures in place as well, including the availability of sanitizers and staff reserving park facilities used by the keiki during the program hours (weekdays, June 6 – July 22, 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Following the Red Hill fuel contamination crisis, the Honolulu Board of Water Supply issued a voluntary call for everyone on O'ahu to reduce their water consumption by 10%. As one of the largest fresh water users on island, Honolulu Parks & Rec is aiming to exceed that goal, with a combination of immediate and long-term actions to conserve this irreplaceable resource. These include: reducing & better timing field watering, installing efficient plumbing, upgrading irrigation lines, running decorative fountains only for a few twilight hours, and planting less thirsty plants. You can help by making sure water features like showers, drinking fountains, and sinks are not left running.